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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/691,887	10/23/2003	Charles W. Stabb	MFCP.108798	8997
45809	7590	06/28/2006	EXAMINER	
SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P. (c/o MICROSOFT CORPORATION) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 2555 GRAND BOULEVARD KANSAS CITY, MO 64108-2613			LUU, SY D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/691,887

Applicant(s)

STABB ET AL.

Examiner

Sy D. Luu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/17/06.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 4/7/06.
2. Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 15, 31 and 34 are independent claims. Claims 1, 15, 31 and 34 were amended. This action is made Final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Objections

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "with to respect the item" on line 6 of claim 1 is grammatically awkward.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out

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the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amro et al. ("Amro", US 5,680,561) in view of Livingston (US 6,621,590 B1).

As per claims 1-5, 10, 13 Amro teaches a graphical user interface embodied on one or more computer-readable media and executable on a computer, said graphical user interface comprising:

a primary display area operable to display an item (fig. 3; col. 2, lines 56-59; *window 300*)

a navigation area configured to accept user inputs relating to navigational actions to be performed with respect the item (col. 2, lines 59-65; *navigation area comprising elements 320, 322 and 324*); and

a secondary display area rendered in response to a user input representing a proposed navigational action to be performed with respect to the item, wherein said secondary display region displays a preview that includes content from said item would be displayed in the primary display area if the proposed navigational action were performed, wherein said secondary display area displays a portion of the item which would be viewable in the primary display area if said proposed navigational action were performed, and wherein said proposed navigational action is to navigate to a portion of the item not currently displayed in said primary display area (col. 3, lines 11-27; col. 4, lines 48-52; *window 330*); and

wherein said item is a computer file, a document, a webpage, word processing document, a presentation document, or a spreadsheet (col. 1, lines 21-24; col. 3, line 59 – col. 4, line 3; *documents being stored and retrieved as files*).

Amro does not teach the preview to include actual content from said item. However, previews of actual contents are known in the art. For instance, Livingston teaches such a method of displaying a preview image (abstract; fig. 3A; col. 5, lines 30-33). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine Livingston's teaching with Amro's GUI in order to present even a better representation of an item of interest.

As per claim 6, Amro teaches said primary display area is associated with an application capable of displaying said item within said primary display region (fig. 3; *window 300 displaying any of the desired document initiated by its associated application*).

As per claims 7-8, Amro teaches said navigation area includes a scrollbar including a column bar and an indicator box, and wherein said user input representing a proposed navigational action is associated with a location within the column bar that relates to the proposed navigational action, wherein said location is communicated via user interaction with a mouse, wherein said mouse includes a pointer viewable in said navigation area and wherein said pointer is positioned at the location for a predetermined time period (fig. 3; *col. 3, lines 11 et seq.; navigation area comprising elements 320, 322 and 324*).

As per claim 9, Amro teaches said navigational inputs are communicated via a mouse, a keyboard, and/or a screen with user input capacity (col. 2, lines 40-55).

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As per claims 11-12, Amro teaches said item to include a link associated with a file or object, and wherein said proposed navigational action is to navigate to said file or object associated with the link (col. 4, lines 39-48).

As per claim 13, Amro teaches said secondary display area displays a portion of the item which would be viewable in the primary display area if said proposed navigational action were performed.

As per claim 14, Amro teaches said secondary display area is hidden in response to a user input subsequent to said user input representing a proposed navigational action (col. 4, lines 48-52; *mini window being removed*).

Claims 15-17, and 29-30 are similar in scope to claims 1-3, 11, 6, 9-10, 13, 11, 13, 10, 13, 13, and 13-14 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 18 is similar in scope to claims 4-5, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 31 and 34 are similar in scope to claim 1, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale. Amro further teaches a preview of the document's content in the mini window 330 as depicted in figure 3 and column 3, lines 24-25.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the independent claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sy Luu whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4064**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on **(571) 272-4063**.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(571) 273-8300**.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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